

## CLAIMS

1. A lip gasket (1) designed to be mounted between the lid (2) and the bowl (3) of a cooking appliance (4) for the purpose of providing sealing between said lid (2) and said bowl (3), said gasket (1) comprising at least first and second lips (1A, 1B), interconnected by a heel, said lips (1A, 1B) and said heel (1C) being such that, when the lips (1A, 1B) are brought together, they are suitable for defining a closed interstitial space (100), said gasket (1) being characterized in that it is provided with at least one geometrical discontinuity (80) suitable for acting, when the lips (1A, 1B) are brought together, to provide at least one path (9, 90) for putting said interstitial space (100) into communication with the outside.

2. A gasket (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that said geometrical discontinuity (80) is a discontinuity due to addition or removal of material.

3. A gasket (1) according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the geometrical discontinuity (80) comprises distance-keeper means (8) for keeping the first and second lips (1A, 1B) apart from each other, said means (80) being interposed between said first and second lips (1A, 1B) so as to prevent said lips (1A, 1B) from being pressed together, at least locally.

4. A gasket (1) according to claim 3, characterized in that the distance-keeper means (80) comprise at least one local bead (8A) of material.

5. A gasket (1) according to claim 4, characterized in that each local bead (8A) forms a projection extending from the first lip (1A) towards the second lip (1B).

6. A gasket (1) according to claim 5, characterized in that each local bead (8A) is formed by a rib.

5 7. A gasket (1) according to claim 6, characterized in that each rib extends from the heel (1C) over substantially the entire length of the first lip (1A) in cross-section.

10 8. A gasket (1) according to any one of claims 4 to 7, characterized in that each local bead (8A) is formed integrally with the first lip (1B).

15 9. A gasket (1) according to any one of claims 4 to 8, characterized in that it is provided with a plurality of local beads (8A) that are spaced apart from one another.

20 10. A gasket (1) according to claim 1 to 2, characterized in that each lip (1A, 1B) respectively has an inside face and opposite outside face, the inside faces of the lips (1A, 1B) facing each other, the geometrical discontinuity (80) comprising at least one notch (80A) provided in the inside face of one of the lips (1A, 1B).

25 11. A gasket (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that, with the bowl (3) extending in an axial direction (X-X') between a bottom (3B) and the lid (2), said gasket (1) is shaped such that, when it is mounted between said lid (2) and said bowl (3), the first and second lips (1A, 1B) extend substantially towards the  
30 bottom (3B) of the bowl (3).

35 12. A gasket (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that it is substantially of channel section, the flanges of the channel section forming respective ones of the first and second lips (1A, 1B), the web of the channel section forming the heel (1C).

13. A gasket (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that it is substantially annular in shape.

5 14. A gasket (1) according to claim 12 and claim 13, characterized in that it is substantially circularly symmetrical in shape, corresponding to its section being rotated about an axis of circular symmetry (X-X') that is substantially parallel to the first flange and/or to the  
10 second flange of the channel section.

15 15. A cooking appliance (4) comprising firstly a bowl (3) and a lid (2) designed to be received on said bowl (3) so as to form a cooking enclosure, and secondly a gasket (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 13, said gasket (1) being mounted between said bowl (3) and said lid (2).

20 16. An appliance (4) according to claim 15, characterized in that the lid (2) has a drop skirt (2B), while the bowl (3) has a bottom (3B) from which a side wall (3A) extends upwards to an entry rim (3C), said lid (2) and said bowl (3) being arranged so that, when the lid (2) is received on the bowl (3), the side wall (3A) surrounds the drop skirt (2B), said gasket (1) being interposed between the  
25 drop skirt (2B) and the side wall (3A).

17. A cooking appliance (4) according to claim 15 or claim 16, characterized in that it constitutes a pressure-cooking appliance.